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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/546,189

04/10/2000

Haruki Hanazono

Q58718

2983

7590

07/02/2004

Sughrue mion Zinn Macpeak & Seas PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue N W
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EXAMINER

LAMB, TWYLER MARIE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 07/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/546,189

Applicant(s)

HANA ZONO ET AL.

Examiner

Twyler M. Lamb

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 20-22 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9, 11-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 2622

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

(NOTE: The Due to the case being caught in the review process the amendment was just matched to the case on 6/22/04.)

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-6 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kuroi (US 6,535,292).

With regard to claims 1 and 10, Kuroi discloses a computer readable recording medium (ROM 3) recording thereon a program (document processing program) (col 4, lines 57-62; col 4, line 65 – col 5, line 1), which causes a computer (host computer having CPU 1) to execute: a process operation for successively storing a plurality of a

Art Unit: 2622

print commands converted from print data into a memory allocated with a certain size (RAM 2) (which reads on assuring a memory area of RAM 2 to store rasterized print image) (col 7, lines 1-5); a process operation for successively reading each of said print command to transmit the read print command to a printing apparatus (printer 1500) (which reads on despooling (reading) the printer control command and transmitting the printer control command) (col 7, lines 47-50); a process operation for rendering a storage area of said memory where said print command has been stored, rewritable so that another print command converted from said print data can be stored in said area (which reads on the band memory being subsequently initialized and the processing routine being returned to step 1 and goes through the process again {Note: the print request is stored in the band memory}) (col 7, lines 28-31).

With regard to claim 2, Kuroi also discloses said recording medium records thereon a program for causing said computer to execute a process operation by which data for controlling read/write operation of a print command to said memory is produced, and said control data is stored into another storage area of said memory (col 6, lines 30-42).

With regard to claim 3, Kuroi also discloses said recording medium records thereon a program containing size of said memory and a data amount presently stored in said memory as said control data (col 6, lines 53-58).

With regard to claim 4, Kuroi also discloses said recording medium records thereon a program containing information indicative of a position within said memory where said print command is stored as said control data (col 6, lines 53-58).

Art Unit: 2622

With regard to claim 5, Hewlett-Packard Company (EP0685819) also discloses said recording medium records thereon a program for causing the computer to further execute; a process operation for acquiring an index indicative of a stored amount of said print command within said memory; and a process operation for stopping a process operation for storing said print command into the memory when said index is larger than, or equal to a first preset threshold value (page 4, lines 23-30).

With regard to claim 6, Hewlett-Packard Company (EP0685819) also discloses said recording medium records thereon a program for causing the computer to further execute; a process operation for reading said stored print command when said index is smaller than, or equal to a second preset threshold value (page 4, lines 44-48).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 20-22 are allowed.
6. Claims 7-9 and 11-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 8/20/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that in claim 1, the area of memory where each of the print

Art Unit: 2622

commands is read out is made rewritable during the process operation of a plural print commands converted from the same data, and not when the printing operation ends, as taught by Kuroi.

Kuroi discloses in col 7, lines 28-31, that the band memory being subsequently initialized and the processing routine being returned to step 1 and goes through the process again {Note: the print request is stored in the band memory}}. This reads on the area of memory where each of the print commands is read out is made rewritable during the process operation of a plural print commands converted from the same data.

Applicant argues Kuroi releases the memory itself and not the size.

Kuroi releases a band of a RAM, which reads on a particular size of the memory (RAM) being releases.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Twyler Lamb whose telephone number is 703 - 308-8823. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L Coles can be reached on 703-308-4712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Application/Control Number: 09/546,189

Page 6

Art Unit: 2622

Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

(for informal or draft communications, such as proposed amendments to be discussed at an interview; please label such communications "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or hand-carried to:


Crystal Park Two

2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA.

Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

Twyler Lamb



June 23, 2004